



Commanding Officer
Marine Wing Communications Squadron 18
Command Philosophy
2 October 2012

I am privileged to join MWCS-18 at a time of increasing U.S. national focus on the Pacific Area of Operations. The Squadron has a long history of superior performance in exercises and operations and is positioned to continue our success into the future no matter what the global political climate may dictate. There are several things that the Squadron must focus on in order to continue to build on our foundation of success and ensure mission accomplishment while maintaining a command climate in which all can be successful and safe.

No one is disposable. We will give our Marines and Sailors every opportunity to succeed personally and professionally through increased opportunities for development. This development will take the form of formal learning, training opportunities and through the continual honing of skills in the tactical environment. Cross-training of critical skills is an important aspect of growth and I expect Squadron leadership to facilitate the cross-training of their Marines. Through continual personal and professional growth we ensure the long term success of our Corps and return valuable citizens to society be it in three or thirty years.

Care for our family. In order to be effective, our family must be cared for financially, emotionally and spiritually. The nature of the Corps is constant change; exercises, TAD, deployment and PCS to name a few. This requires the individual to be focused on the mission, often to the exclusion of all else. If our family at home is not secure the individual will be unable to focus on mission when it counts most which puts the mission and our fellow Marines and Sailors in jeopardy. We must enable, encourage and mentor our Marines and Sailors to ensure they have the requisite skills, resources and knowledge to fully care for their families.

The Marine and Sailor to your right and left is part of your family. We must not ever tolerate discrimination based on sex, race or creed or allow sexual assault of any kind. We must be constantly vigilant, recognizing the signs of Post Traumatic Stress and suicidal thoughts or ideations. If a fellow Marine or Sailor needs our help we must recognize it and act swiftly to protect and support them, our Squadron and our Corps.

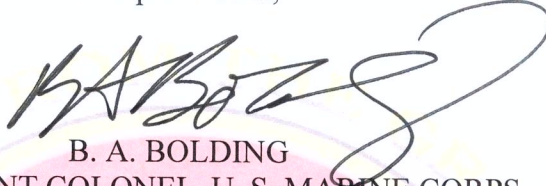
Balance in all things. To be effective, you must find balance. Make time for work, family, recreation, leave, PT, and continuing education. Balance in your life will lead to well-rounded satisfaction and in turn make the individual and the Squadron more effective.

Exceed the standard. As the Corps draws down, there is no room for those who scrape by, merely meeting the standard. This is true of all aspects of your career; technical proficiency, leadership and physical fitness. This is especially true of the Officer and SNCO ranks. I and the Corps expect you to set the standard, always seeking improvement and expecting nothing but the best from your seniors, subordinates and peers. You must not shy away from making corrections, especially of your peers.

Know what you believe. Never sacrifice your integrity or ethical principles. In order to do this you must take the time to reflect on YOUR beliefs. Our Corps mandates, and the citizens of the U.S. expect, a very high level of integrity and ethics from the individual Marine. Your personal beliefs can either make maintenance of those standards very easy or very hard. If your beliefs make it difficult to maintain personal and professional integrity you should seek employment elsewhere. If you do not know what you believe you are a ship without a rudder. If your beliefs are such that integrity and ethical behavior is valued you will find that you can maintain the standards of the Corps quite easily.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve with each of you.

Semper Fidelis,



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